



U.S. AIR FORCE
Aug. 12, 2005

ALI'TIMES



Raw nerves

EOD relies on high-tech machinery to dispose of suspicious packages, keep servicemembers safe 9



Out and about

Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander, visits Team Ali.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

(Left) Senior Airman Ruben Gonzales, 407th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron, shows **(right)** Jorge Nolasco, Allied Arms Co. Ltd director of military business group, and several other contractors (not pictured) construction requirements, while **(middle)** Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander, gets a lesson in Contracting 101.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting the 407th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron. At one point in time, they've awarded contracts for just about everything we use around here - from the toner cartridge in your printer, the chair you sit on, the computer on your desk and the desk itself. During this rotation alone, they've awarded \$8.5 million in general contracts. And that doesn't even include the \$40 million in specialized contracts. They touch every aspect of deployment life; they award contracts to companies to supply Team Ali with everything from water to large-dollar construction projects to pea gravel in Bedrock to the porta johns. And they don't sign away Uncle Sam's money until they've put a bid out to get the best price for the government. That takes time, research and persistence to ensure the Air Force gets a quality product for the right price. We are in a unique situation here, in that Contracting is actually a staff agency, like Safety or Public Affairs - but also their own squadron. Back at home station, they fall under the Mission Support Group. It takes a lot of different parts of the team here to make this base run. Read about more group agencies, who along with Contracting, are behind the scenes helping all of you do your job on Pages 4 and 5.

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Photo by U.S. Army Master Sgt. Lek Mateo

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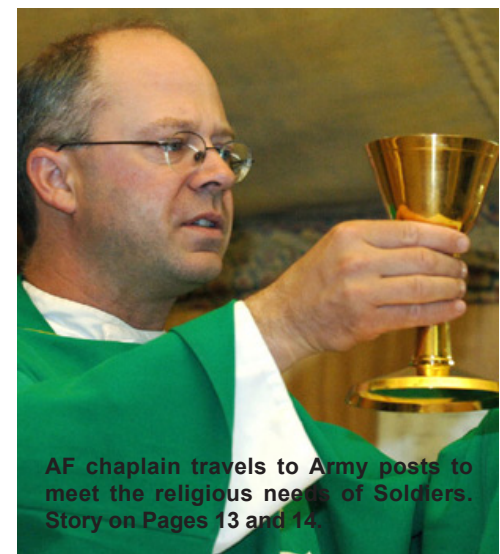
Chaplain serves in joint environment, helps servicemembers enrich off-duty lives

Front Page photo



Photo by U.S. Army Master Sgt. Lek Mateo

Tech. Sgt. Michael Land, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal noncommissioned officer in charge of EOD Resources, operates a Remotec Mini-II Andros robot used to locate suspicious packages and keep EOD members at a safe distance from explosives. Sergeant Land is deployed from MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Story on Page 9.



AF chaplain travels to Army posts to meet the religious needs of Soldiers. Story on Pages 13 and 14



Team Ali congratulates its newest staff sergeants

David C. Atkins, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron
 Chad A. Bradfield, 407th ECES
 Jahara A. Brown, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron
 Grace M. Camama, 407th ECES
 David M. Downum, 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron
 Neal Dykeman, 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron
 Corey A. Engram, 407th ELRS
 Fox Teresa M, 407th Air Expeditionary Group
 Joseph Freiesleben, 407th ESFS
 Mark L. Gerrard, 407th ECES
 Leslie D. Glandon, 407th ECES
 Kara E. Glover, 407th ECES
 Wilfredo P. Godreau, 407th ECES
 Derick S. Gooch, 407th ESFS
 Zachary C. Grafton, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron
 Matthew C. Hallmark, 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron
 Carlos Herrera, 407th ECES
 Lind Hollingsworth, 407th ECES
 Patrick N. Keenan, 407th ECES
 Patrick E. King, 777th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
 Justin J. Kitts, 407th ESFS
 Karl W. Knowlton, 407th ECS
 Marlon B. Lancaster, 407th ESVS
 Jaime H. Lugo, 407th ECES
 Erik F. Marolt, 777th EAMXS
 Daniel E. Maslowski, 777th EAS
 Michael A. Miedona, 407th EOSS
 Cheri L. Montanez, 407th ESFS
 Jennifer Morales, 407th EOSS
 Michael D. Moran, 407th ECS
 Nicholas J. Noonan, 407th ELRS
 Paul R. Oceanak, 407th EOSS
 Andrew J. Prowant, 407th ELRS
 Jessica R. Raby, 407th AEG
 William T. Reese, 407th ECES
 Brent M. Rice, 407th ECES
 Kiley S. Robinson, 777th EAMXS
 Nicholas J. Sawchak, 777th EAMXS
 Shawn M. Sheppard, 407th ELRS
 Candace N. Sloan, 407th ESVS
 Allen J. Sohn, 407th ECES
 Kevin M. Sparkes, 407th ECES
 Jacob R. Thompson, 407th ECES
 Daniel L. Turba, 407th ECES
 Kelly A. Vanamburg, 407th ESFS
 Sheryl Washington, 407th ECES
 James A. Wiese, 407th ECS
 Carlie R. Williams, 407th ESFS
 Chad A. Young, 407th ECES

The Air Force has selected 14,614 of 36,405 eligible senior airmen for promotion to staff sergeant, a 40.14 percent selection rate. The rate dropped slightly from last year. The complete list of selectees is posted online at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom/. The average selectee has 1.92 years time in grade and 4.52 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to staff sergeant from September 2005 to August 2006.

Article courtesy of AFPC News Service

...And The Beat Goes On

We want to know more about our Tops In Blue fans.

Help us understand who you are and where you find out information and we'll sign you up for our "Share The Music Contest."

Just to say thank you for completing our survey, you'll have a chance to win one of our many iPod prizes from 20GB iPods, Shuffles, iPod accessories and iTunes.



Your answers will be protected and used for HQ Air Force Services research. See rules. Contest ends 31 Oct 05.



Log on to www.topsinblue.com for your chance to win!

PERSCO's corner

PERSCO moved

Personnel Contingency Operations moved to Building 420, which is located at the North entry control point across from Finance. Their hours are 8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and on stand by for emergency services only Sundays.

Quarterly assignment listing available

The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas requirements for April - June 2006 is available and personnel can view the lists on the AFPC home page at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm>.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements by AFSC and rank. Airmen should review, prioritize and update their assignment preferences based on the EQUAL list. To update preferences, complete an AF Form 392, Airman Assignment Preference Statement, which you can download from the intranet at: <http://intranet/PERSCO2/PERSCO%20DWT.htm> and bring to PERSCO or stop by PERSCO to fill one out.

Assignment preferences need to be updated by Aug. 18. Airmen will be notified of their selection before Sept. 15.

Stand-alone computer for customer use

PERSCO now has a stand-alone computer for customers to use to update their personnel records while here. Members can review their personnel records on file at the Air Force Personnel Center, print decorations reports on individual personnel, update their Record of Emergency Data, scan work-related documents to e-mail back to their home station, log on to Assignment Management System to view the EQUAL listing (and fill out dream sheet) and much more.

Contact PERSCO

For more information, contact PERSCO at 445-2133.

Recycle toner cartridges

Personnel can now recycle ink and toner cartridges at Ali. Bring used ink and toner cartridges (from unclassified printers only) to Building 400 for disposal. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Greg Jones, 407th Expeditionary Financial Management, at 445-2264 or Senior Airman Teresa Fox, 407th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron, at 445-2200.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

Lending a helping hand

(Right to Left) Airman 1st Class Kristal Cox, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, holds the flag steady and aloft, while Senior Airman Brandy Collins, 407th ESFS, attaches Old Glory to the flagpole Wednesday. The reveille ceremony was the first of many upcoming commemorations. The flag will now be flown daily in Bedrock from 7:15 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. daily. A project is currently in place to install another flag pole beside it to fly the Iraqi flag during those hours as well. "The American flag is a symbol of freedom and helps remind Team Ali why we are here - to help the Iraqi people as they create a nation founded on the democratic ideals we enjoy in our nation," said Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander. For more information about sponsoring a reveille or retreat ceremony, call 1st Lt. Lee Mathews, 407th ESFS, at 445-2600.

Network News

By Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Wolpink

407th ECS Network Control Center

Security reminder: Remember to practice good operational security when using the Ali unclassified network, the non-secure internet protocol router network (more commonly referred to as the NIPRNet). Never send classified or sensitive information i.e. classified computer addresses, flight departure/arrival times, large trips off base, etc. OPSEC is every Ali network user's responsibility! If you are in doubt as to whether the information is classified, err on the side of caution, and transmit or save the data on a classified system.

Old profiles: The first time a user logs on to a computer, a profile is created which contains all user settings, personal desktop items, a My Documents folder, etc. Several computers on base have multiple profiles on them; mostly, because the profiles from the last rotation are still there. These old profiles take up so much space on your hard drive that sometimes it's difficult to load new anti-virus updates. This has the potential to be very bad. Therefore, the 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron created a script to

delete any profiles, which have not been used in 140 days. This script will be activated Saturday. If you are using information from another profile, we suggest you move it to your own - NOW. As well, all morale computers in the Hot Spot will have their profiles deleted on a more regular basis. This will ensure every computer has the latest antivirus updates and help protect all of our information.

What if a Web site is blocked? Sometimes you will receive a message stating a Web site is blocked, what then? The 407th ECS blocks categories of Web sites listed in the Special Instructions for Communicators put out by the U.S. Central Air Forces Network Operations and Security Center. The list can be found at http://intranet/COMM/cfp/files/Web_Access.doc. If the site you are trying to access is for official business, you can request to have it unblocked.

For instance, if it's necessary for the 407th Explosive Ordnance Disposal to go to www.howtoblowthingsup.com, then it may be unblocked. To request a site to be unblocked, submit an Air Force Form 3215 through your customer support administrator, formerly called work

group manager, to the 407th ECS.

Macros: In an effort to minimize the potential for macro-based viruses to infect the Ali network, the NOSC has created a new policy to force users to enable or disable executables in office files (Word and Excel) when the files are opened. What does this mean to you? Each time you open a file with macros enabled, by default, you will receive a prompt requesting you to enable or disable to macros. As a reminder, only open files and enable the macros from trusted users.

Changes to the GAL: U.S. Transportation Command and U.S. Strategic Command address listings (GAL) will no longer be displayed in the Ali GAL. Users can find USTRANSCOM and USSTRATCOM user data by going to the NOSC-D NIPRNet Web site (<https://www.noscd.centaf.af.mil>) and clicking the USTRANSCOM USSTRATCOM e-mail search hyperlink in the bottom left corner, or go directly to <https://www.noscd.centaf.af.mil/email>. Once at the Web page, select the search field option and enter the search criteria. This will provide a list of all objects matching the criteria and a hyperlink that you can click on to send an e-mail.

For more information, contact the 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron Help Desk at 445-2731/2732.



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EDITORIAL STAFF

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Deadline for publication is 2 p.m. Thursday before the week of publication. For more information, call 445-2318, or e-mail the staff.

Taking care of the man who takes care of the base



Succumbing to the fact there are never enough hours in the day, Lt. Col. David A. Rearick, 407th Air Expeditionary Group deputy commander, borrows another set of hands to help with the more than 300 decorations that have flowed through the command section on their way to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad Air Base, Iraq for final approval. Each package is scrutinized and polished to ensure deserving Airmen get the proper recognition for a job well-done. One of Colonel Rearick's many other functions is to advise the Group commander, unit commanders and staff agencies on matters impacting the mission. In this endeavour, he directs actions to enhance effectiveness and impacts every facet of life at Ali. "As a member of the Group team, I am able to apply my knowledge and experience to determine the best course of action on a myriad of challenges this Group faces every day," said Colonel Rearick. "The best part of my job is witnessing the success of our Airmen."

■ Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips ■ 1st in 2-part series: *Group Uncovered* ■

Executive officer



(Front to back) Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th AEG commander, warily eyes Capt. Stephen J. Esposito, 407th AEG executive officer, as he loads up his inbox with decoration packages.

Job description: Coordinate commander's communications. I'm also charged with understanding effective communications as it pertains to memorandums, letters, decorations, purchase requests and purchase justifications, etc. I ensure official documents are complete and accurate before they enter the commander's inbox.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? All unit commanders' endorsed communications come through me; therefore, I aid the commander to make efficient decisions without worrying about how the process works "under the hood."

What's the best part about your job? I get to see the bigger picture and understand how the pieces fit together and how the other squadrons in the group interoperate.

A collection of unique functional specialties, Group Airmen don't fall under any one squadron. They directly serve the Group commander.

"The Group staff is a dynamic handful of individuals that look out for the needs of the entire base populace, not just one unit," said Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander. "They take all the different squadrons, who are charged with specific duties like fixing aircraft or maintaining the fitness center, and thread them together into a cohesive whole. It takes a multitude of elements working together to make that happen - and the Group staff are often the people creating those connections that otherwise wouldn't naturally happen on their own."

Colonel Nowak said it starts with people like his deputy and superintendent, whose chief job it is to act as an extra set of eyes and ears for him, and relay Airmen's concerns back to him in order to keep the mission on track.

"Both Colonel Rearick and Chief Ferguson are my sounding board," said Colonel Nowak. "I talk to them before implementing policy that affects Airmen all over the base. Even though sometimes it might not seem like it from a unit's perspective, every decision made is heavily debated to consider how it will

See *Group* Page 6

Superintendent



(Back to Front) Chief Master Sgt. Susan Ferguson, 407th AEG superintendent, talks to a 407th AEG member during her weekly slushy hour Fridays at 3 to 5 p.m. at the Hot Spot.

Job description? Advise the Group commander on matters impacting the enlisted force such as enlisted leadership, management and supervisory training. I also communicate with squadron commanders on problems, concerns and morale of enlisted.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? I provide the commander and deputy an enlisted viewpoint based on years of experience, inputs from the first sergeants and, more importantly, inputs from the troops themselves that I learn by attending the First Four, Focus 56 and Top Three councils. **What's the best part about your job?** Talking with the troops. My next favorite part is working with a diverse staff and having debates and discussions and then putting together a plan to work an issue.



Airman 1st Class Heather Kerr, 407th Air Expeditionary Group information manager, hands a Group Airman his mail.

Group

Continued from Page 5

impact each Airman here.”

Another group staffer that gets to know the pulse of the base is the protocol officer. She is often one of the first people distinguished visitors throughout the Air Force, sister services and coalition forces meet when they step off the plane on Ali’s flightline.

“The protocol officer is a classic example of how Group agencies interact with the base,” said Colonel Nowak. “She coordinates with more than eight agencies and enlists the support of more than 100 Airmen for any one typical DV visit.

“Her job requires an amazing level of dedication to the details from finding out if the DV has food allergies to ensuring their lodging arrangements are made. Protocol helps the base make a good impression on a DV, and sets a positive tone right from the start.”

Setting a positive tone is the responsibility of yet another staff agency.

“The chapel is here for the spiritual readiness of all people,” said Colonel Nowak. “By default, they’re everyone’s Wingman and provide Airmen with an outlet, so they can give 110 percent back to the mission.

“All the staff agencies help keep me out of trouble and keep the base running smoothly,” he said. “Whether it’s ensuring Airmen submit Air Force Form 9s or decoration packages correctly, or listening to Airmen’s ideas so we can continually leave this base better than we found it, the staff agencies help me to better serve you.”



1st Lt. Jen Mack, 407th AEG protocol officer, labels thank you letters to unit members who helped welcome a distinguished visitor here.

Administrative section

Job description: Track and edit all administrative correspondences requiring the Group commander’s signature. Maintain Group staff computers, which includes hardware and software installation and configuration, and all their administrative needs.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? We support the commander by effectively processing administrative correspondences that aid in decision-making in a timely and accurate manner. We also ensure information is available when needed by proper records management.

What’s the best part about your job? I get to meet everyone throughout the base and learn what they do for the base. A lot of people come to my office looking for answers to their questions; it’s nice to know that many people rely on us to point them in the right direction.

Protocol

Job description: Coordinate distinguished visitor visits. I coordinate with the entire base to set their itinerary, lodging, transportation, communications support, etc. I also coordinate official functions like ceremonies and act as a liaison to our sister services and coalition forces leadership.

How does your job support the commander and impact the mission? My job is to provide a distraction-free environment that ensures the DVs meet the people they need to meet and receive everything they need for a successful visit.

What’s the best part about your job? DV visits always provide an awesome opportunity to watch different organizations come together and work hand-in-hand. I couldn’t do my job without the support of all the individuals in each squadron, and it’s been awesome to learn about each squadron’s mission.



Chapel

Senior Airman Jason Slaughter, 407th AEG chaplain’s assistant, sets up the altar prior to a service recently. The chapel staff manage the Group Oasis of Peace Chapel. A Protestant and Catholic chaplain serve the religious needs of the community, which includes Army and coalition members (*Story on Pages 13 and 14*). The chapel staff’s primary mission is to give people the opportunity to freely exercise their chosen religion and is a place of respite for Airmen from various mission and personal demands. “The best part of this job is to see lives transformed permanently,” said Airman Slaughter. “It brings me joy when I know a marriage is reconciled, the past is forgiven, addictions are forever buried, parents renew their relationship with their children and vice versa, peace and hope replace fear and worry, and worshippers experience a loving relationship with a caring Father. I get to see that happen as part of my job serving the Air Force. I’ve told people since I’ve been here, ‘I would not want to do any other job while I’m here.’ I still believe that.”

Every Airman is a warfighter irrespective of AFSC

While attending technical school to become a financial management warrior, one day the instructor informed us that we were about to watch one of the worst movies the Air Force ever made. Being the smart-aleck that I am, I immediately blurted out, "You're going to make us watch *Iron Eagle*."

From my point of view, no one watched, or liked, *Iron Eagle*. However, I'm willing to bet even our youngest Airman saw Top Gun. I'm even willing to bet that Top Gun was a contributing factor for some of us to join the military. Sure, we picked the wrong service to relive the movie, but that still doesn't mean we didn't want to fly, fight and win - living our lives on the pointy end of the spear.

Unfortunately, I believe that we have a perception problem in today's Air Force. It appears somewhere between getting off that bus at basic training and getting off that plane here at Ali Base a disconnect developed that has diminished our warrior spirit.

I recently found that this negative perception reaches all the way to that most hallowed of institutions - Air Force news on the American Forces Network channel.

Recently, I watched Staff Sgt. Snuffy, an Air Force broadcaster on an Air Force news blurb. One of the stories focused on an Air Force combat controller embedded with Army troops in Afghanistan. He was calling in air strikes with pinpoint accuracy to further that unit's mission.

It was a good story, real rah-rah "Off we go into the wild blue yonder" stuff. Then Sergeant Snuffy ruins the entire piece for me by closing with, "Another great example of America's Airmen providing *support* to the *warfighter*."

Huh? That statement just does not make sense to me, and here is why.

Of the many activities I've attempted here at Ali Base to "make the days count," the one I love to hate the most is Squadron Officer School in correspondence. Not to bore you with the details, but many of the lessons deal with Karl von Clausewitz. Clausewitz was a great Prussian military strategist, and, to me, he had a very enlightened view of military service and its relation to the rest of society. He once said, "Government's job is to establish the political purpose, the military provides the means for achieving the political end, and the people provide the will."

Basically government decides to wage war, military does the waging and the people give us what we need i.e. food, money, etc.

"...whether you work in Services or Security Forces, you are the warfighter... We are warfighters on our nation's behalf, whenever and wherever we are called - irrespective of Air Force Specialty Code."



Story and quote by Capt. Bryan Collins
407th Expeditionary Financial Management

You know - SUPPORT!

So, if the U.S. populace provides the support, what is it we do again? Oh right, we fight the wars.

Look around, whether you work in Services or Security Forces, you are the warfighter. By taking the oath to "support and defend," we dedicated ourselves to that higher calling. We are warfighters on our nation's behalf, whenever and wherever we are called - irrespective of Air Force Specialty Code.

For decades the principle problem with the Air Force's self-perception is our willingness to be pigeonholed. To this day, ask an Airman what they do and their response will most likely be, "I work in MPF," or "I'm a navigator."

Both are great answers, and noble callings, but if you ask the same question of our Army and Marine brethren, the response is vastly different. They will tell you, "I am a Marine" or "I am a Soldier."

We can learn a great deal from our sister services, and none of us have to attend military training (which is where I seem to get my epiphanies) to start that process in place. Our leaders tell us through their words, and actions, that a mental adjustment is needed for all Airmen to remain a viable military force in the future.

As such, we should embrace the changes sought by former Chief of Staff (Gen.) Michael Ryan, who retired in Oct. 2001 and Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper, and answer that previous question proudly by saying, "I am an Airman," no less important to our nation's defense than Soldiers, Sailors or Marines.

Greatest of all, you are an expeditionary Airman living life on the pointy end of the spear. Fortunately the expeditionary life is not forever. Thus, as your resident finance warrior, let me remind you to file your travel voucher when you get home. Even a warrior likes to be paid.

Helping others through a period of suffering

Suffering.

Many philosophers subscribe to the idea that suffering is good for the soul and teach that suffering is an important part in the makeup of who we are.

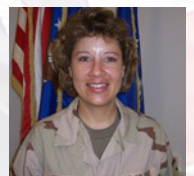
No one likes to suffer, but we learn to take both the good and bad, and incorporate it into our lives, learn from our mistakes and embrace our victories.

One of the great things about the United States of America is the unique and varied cultures and perspectives we bring to the

table. One person may embrace family, another friends and yet another devotes their life to work.

We all have different perspectives on life here during a deployment, as one person worries about the heat, another about the food, yet another about the "together-

"When I think of the Iraqi people, who have embraced a change for their future and truly define the meaning of suffering as they lose citizens daily to make their world a better place, I am humbled."



Story and quote by Master Sgt. Kristy Walker
407th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron first sergeant

Suffering

Continued from Page 6

ness” we cannot seem to escape.

As we long for home and get caught up in the little things like the rising mercury, that piece of cheesecake or the lack of flavors of ice cream available, we need to stop for a second and remind ourselves why we are here.

Each of us has a personal lesson on suffering to be learned during this deployment. Many have missed birthdays, anniversaries and many more struggles our families face while we are gone.

We all may be away from home, away from loved ones and people who are important to us, yet it pales to the suffering our comrades living amongst us deal with.

The suffering we commiserate about here is diminutive in comparison to that of the people in this country.

When I think of the Iraqi people, who have embraced a change for their future and truly define the meaning of suffering as they lose citizens daily to make their world a bet-

ter place, I am humbled.

In fact, I often find myself downright embarrassed at my life here.

I’ve been fortunate to work with Iraqi patriots dedicated to rebuilding their country. I see pictures of their children, and witness firsthand the toll this conflict is taking on their lives.

Although it may seem natural to gripe about our time in Iraq, we should remain thankful for what we have as Americans.

We must not only look backwards at those who lost their lives before us, but also look forward to the future as we help those forging a new life.

Friedrich Nietzsche said, “*From life’s military school - what doesn’t kill me makes me stronger.*”

How poignant those words are today here in Iraq on the eve of an important victory with the constitutional referendum looming in the future.

Nietzsche’s words remind us that our time here will not only strengthen each of us in a unique way, but, more importantly, strengthen the resolve of an emerging nation.

Uniform deadline reminders

As of Aug. 15, Air Force personnel will no longer be allowed to wear civilian attire here. When personnel are not in their desert camouflage uniforms or flight suits, Air Force members must wear either the old physical training gear or the Air Force PT uniform. As of Sept. 1, Air Force members can only wear the new Air Force PT uniform, when not wearing the DCU or flight suit. For more information, contact your first sergeant.

Airmen’s Challenge

Team Ali is encouraged to attend the Airmen’s Challenge (1.5 mile run, push ups and sit ups) Tuesday at 7 a.m. at the South entry control point. For more information, contact Senior Airmen Michael B. Garza at 445-2615 or Charlton R. Nelson at 445-2629.

Fire reporting

If residents need to report an emergency to the fire department (i.e. fire, auto accident, injured person, etc.), call 911 and give the dispatcher as many details as possible such as: **location** (use landmarks, intersections, directions, building numbers), **contact point** (make sure you give the dispatcher a working phone number or radio call sign), **identify specific problem** and **don’t leave the area** (once you reported the problem make sure someone goes out to the roadway and flags down the fire units). For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Joe Graves, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron fire inspector, at 445-2079.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Marc Melcher

Joint patrols

(Left to right) RO5 Francesco Napolitano, Stazione Carabinieri of Vicenza patrolman deployed here, and Staff Sgt. Michael Muir, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Police Operations patrolman, stop a driver speeding on Airport Road. Both men are assigned to the Joint Forces Police Operations that comprises Air Force, Army and Italian policemen. The Air Force recently signed a mutual agreement with the Italian forces here to jointly patrol the installation to ensure the safety and security for all members assigned here. Due to the language barrier prior to the joint operations, patrolmen sometimes had problems communicating with the suspected offender. By combining resources, the communication barrier is now removed. The JFPO is responsible for enforcing law and order for the entire installation.



The Action Line is a direct link to the commander for complaints, suggestions or comments. When normal chain of command channels haven’t been able to resolve the concern, call 437-2702 or e-mail Ali.Times@tlab.centaf.af.mil.

Read Air Force news at www.af.mil

EOD relies on high-tech machinery, raw nerves to dispose of suspicious package

■ Story and photos by Master Sgt. Lek Mateo, 56th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office ■

Airmen and Soldiers here encounter explosive situations daily when they travel along Iraq's highways during convoy escort missions.

However, things hit closer to home when a Soldier found a suspicious package with unfamiliar markings in a restroom trailer near the headquarters of the Texas Army National Guard's 56th Brigade Combat Team, 36th Infantry Division.

He immediately reacted to ensure everyone's safety on-scene and called the proper authorities. Airmen from the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron along with Soldiers from the 56th BCT quickly evacuated everyone and cordoned off the area around the package.

After they initially secured the scene, they called in the big guns - EOD.

The 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams are specially trained to deal with dangerous munitions and arrived on site with two of their high-technology robots within minutes of the call.

The teams quickly deployed their space-age-looking vehicles to the area where the package was found to investigate and confirm if it was a bomb.

Senior Airman Cameron L. Champion,

407th ECES EOD technician who is a reservist from Dobbins Air Force Base, Ga., gingerly maneuvered the Remotec F6A robot. The robot is tethered to a base station by a thin fiber optic cable where Airman Champion was safely located.

He maneuvers the robot through a maze of concrete barriers and military vehicles in the headquarters parking lot to get to the package. After he recovered the package, he safely relocated it to a safe area adjacent to an 18-inch thick reinforced concrete blast wall designed to protect people from the blast of an artillery rocket or mortar round. After he ensured everyone was safe from a potential blast, he used the robots mechanical gripper and explosive tools to open the package and reveal the contents inside.

Airman Champion said operating the sophisticated-looking robot is not as hard as it looks. The only thing an operator has to become accustomed to is manipulating the robotic arms in a three-dimensional environment through a two-dimensional television monitor.

The suspicious package turned out to be nothing but a harmless foreign military field ration, but everyone there agreed that acting on the side of caution is best.

Master Sgt. Thomas P. Carroll, 407th ECES EOD team chief based at McGuire AFB, N.J., explained that the team regularly receives suspicious package calls and treats everyone of them as the real thing.

"We can't afford to make any guesses because it may cause someone to

lose their life," Sergeant Carroll said.

The Lewiston, Maine, native emphasized that safety is paramount in their business because they handle dangerous materials such as explosives and ordnances frequently. However, when they can, they use the robots to go into harm's way in place of a human because they don't get a second chance if something should go wrong.

Airman 1st Class Ian M. Wise, 407th ECES EOD technician from Mountain Home AFB, Mont., took safety to heart while he prepared the robot, even though beads of sweat dripped down his forehead into his eyes.

"I don't let the heat bother me because I'm trying to do my best to stay focused," Airman Wise said. "I try to concentrate on what I am doing at the moment to make sure I remember all the training I've received for the job and don't miss a step."

U.S. Army Spc. Brian M. Clay, of North Webster, Ind., and a Soldier of 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery, 101st Airborne Division, attached to the 56th BCT, said that the incident today is a sobering reminder that this could have been a real bomb and he is in a combat zone where complacency is not an option.

Specialist Clay was one of the first responders who helped evacuate the area. He said he has a newfound respect for the EOD team and the dangerous work that its members perform. He added that he was glad that they were able to safely identify and destroy the package — even though it may have been someone's meal.

"Any job that deals with explosives is a dangerous job," Specialist Clay said. "The Air Force EOD team did a good job today, and I really respect them for what they do."

If individuals see a suspicious package, they should report the information to security forces at 445-2600, the command post at 445-2000, EOD at 445-2012/2212, their supervisor and commander, and warn anyone in the area who could be harmed. Then individual's should stay at a safe distance away to help steer first responders to the scene.



Senior Airman Cameron L. Champion, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance technician, uses a joystick to slowly maneuver a Remotec F6A robot to investigate a suspicious package left unattended in a restroom on Camp Adder recently.

Catch the excitement

Operation Reach Out helps local people in need, makes a few friends in process



Photos by Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel

An Operation Reach Out volunteer interacts with locals outside the base on a recent mission. Operation Reach Out is an Ali Base program designed to help local people in need. Operation Reach Out always needs clothes for all ages and sizes, shoes (all sizes), soccer balls, footballs, toys (nothing religious), food (no pork products), hygiene and infant items. The 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, who manages the program, is planning to hold a few more missions this rotation. Individuals who want to get involved should contact their first sergeant, or call Senior Airman Kelly Vanamburg, 407th ESFS, and Senior Airman Justin Kitts, 407th ESFS, at 445-2232.

(Right) Master Sgt. Jennifer Smith, 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, communicates with a few local children at an Operation Reach Out mission Wednesday. (Below) Two local children enjoy refreshments.



407th AEG Warrior of the Week

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Dineen



Unit: 407th Air Expeditionary Group

Duty title: Ground Safety manager

Home unit: Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii

Why other warriors say he's a warrior: "Since his arrival, Sergeant Dineen's genuine concern for the safety and well-being of all American and coalition forces here has remained apparent. His thorough investigations of mishaps have provided insightful guidance to prevent additional occurrences. He is the best GSM I've seen in my career," said Lt. Col. Eric Brenkert, 407th Air Expeditionary Group safety officer.

What is your most memorable Air Force experience: Working security on the parade route for the 2005 Presidential Inauguration

Hobbies: Spending time with my family (Donna, wife; Logan Ryan, 4 and Kody Michael, 2), playing golf and chess

Identify This



KNOW WHAT THIS IS? If you can identify the object, e-mail us at Ali.Times@tlab.centaf.af.mil with "Identify This" in the subject block by 3 p.m. the following Friday. All correct entries will be placed in a box and **three winners** will be **randomly selected** at the following week's **Combat Bingo** at 7:30 p.m. at the Hot Spot. *Participants do not have to attend bingo to win.* The three winners will **win a complimentary t-shirt or coin** from the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron. The July 29 *ID This* winners, who correctly identified the outlet valve cover for a chemical mask, are Lt. Col. Eric Brenkert, 407th Air Expeditionary Group; Senior Airman Matthew Monroe, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron and Master Sgt. Ronald Whidden, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.



Nighttime aerobics kicks into high gear



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

(Left/front to back) Maj. Daniel Lockert, 777th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, and Maj. Michael Ponder, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron commander, stretch prior to the aerobic portion of the class recently.

(Right) Major Lockert knocks out some push ups during the circuit training portion of class. Nighttime aerobics classes are offered Mondays and Thursdays at 9:30 p.m. at the Big Top. Aerobics classes are also offered Wednesdays at 5:30 a.m. at Muscle Beach. The instructor rotates among circuit training, step, and high and low impact training. For more information on exercise classes, check out the *Just for Fun* schedule on Page 12, or call Muscle Beach at 445-2136 or the House of Pain Army Fitness Center at 833-1709.

Idol magic

An Airman from Air and Space Expeditionary Force rotation one/two croons a melody to the audience at the last Tallil Idol. The 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron is looking for interested individuals here (to include Army, contractors and coalition forces) to perform music, comedy, skits, poetry or dance routines for an upcoming talent show called the Ali Idol. Sign up at the Hot Spot by Aug. 16. Practices are scheduled for Aug 17 and 18 at 4 p.m. at the Big Top. The show date is scheduled for Aug. 20. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Michael Shimkus, 407th ESVS, at 445-2306.



Volley ball standings

American league W-L

ECES A 5-1
EOSS C 5-1
ECES C 5-1
EOSS B 4-3
ESFS A 2-3
AEG B 1-4
ESVS OUT

Stats are current as of Thursday

National league W-L

ITALIANS 6-1
ECONS/EFM 6-1
ECES 4-3
ECS 5-2
EOSS A 2-5
ESFS B 2-5
ELRS 2-4
AEG A 1-6



Beat the Heat 5K race

Come out and conqueror the heat at the Beat the Heat 5K run Sunday at 6 a.m. at the Garrison Command. Registration starts at 5 a.m.; the race starts at 6 a.m. For more information, call Capt. Rodney Freeman, Garrison Command morale, welfare and recreation director, at 833-1745.



Just for Fun

Presented by the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron

Today

5:30 a.m., Step Class at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain, Army fitness center
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., Intramural volleyball TNY at volleyball courts
7 p.m., 9-Ball TNY at Army Rec Center
7 p.m., Halo-2 at Army Rec Center
7:30 p.m., Bingo followed by a movie at Hot Spot
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Saturday

5:30 a.m., Pilates at House of Pain
2:30 p.m., Pilates at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
8 p.m., Salsa lessons at House of Pain

Sunday

3 p.m., Spin at House of Pain
4 p.m., Shito-Ryu at House of Pain
8 p.m., Power Lifting competition at Muscle Beach
8 p.m., 9-ball at Hot Spot

Monday

4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7:30 p.m., Jujitsu, at Muscle Beach
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8 p.m., Dominoes at Hot Spot
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach
9:30 p.m., Aerobics at Big Top

Tuesday

5:30 a.m., Pilates at House of Pain
5:30 a.m., Yoga at Muscle Beach
2:30 p.m., Yoga at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach

6:30 p.m., Shito-Ryu at House of Pain
8 p.m., Ping Pong at Hot Spot
8 p.m., Spin at House of Pain

Wednesday

5:30 a.m., Aerobics at Muscle Beach
2:30 p.m., Pilates at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8 p.m., Quarterback Challenge at basketball court
8 p.m., 5-card stud at Hot Spot
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Thursday

5:30 a.m., Pilates at House of Pain
5:30 a.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
2:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
6:30 p.m., Shito-Ryu at House of Pain
8 p.m., Spin at House of Pain
8 p.m., Music night in the Courtyard at Adder Commons
9:30 p.m., Aerobics at Big Top
10:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach

Aug. 19

5:30 a.m., Step class at Muscle Beach
4:30 p.m., Slim in 6, resist-a-band, at House of Pain
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., 8-ball tournament at Army Rec Center
7 p.m., Halo-2 at Army Rec Center
7:30 p.m., Bingo followed by a movie at Hot Spot
8 p.m., Step aerobics at House of Pain
8 p.m., Hand-to-hand at House of Pain
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Upcoming

Aug. 28, Bench press competition at House of Pain

For more information or to share suggestions, about 407th Services Squadron events, call 445-2696.

For more information about the House of Pain, Army fitness center, call 833-1709. For more information about Army morale, welfare and recreation activities, call 833-1745.

Cricket Movie Theater

HOT SPOT

Today



Fantastic Four, 1 a.m. and 1 p.m., Marvel's beloved superhero team comes to the big screen. The superheroes battle the evil Doctor Doom. Starring Reed Richards, Johnny Storm and Ben Grimm.



Kicking and Screaming, 3 a.m. and 3 p.m., A coach of his young son's soccer team is forced to go up against his ultra-competitive father, who has a new son on the opposing team. Starring Will Ferrell and Robert Duvall.



Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 5 a.m., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., An action-packed thrill ride about a bored married couple who discover that they both are hiding a secret - they're secret agents. When the truth is out, they end up in each other's cross-hairs. Starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.



Mindhunters, 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., An FBI-training program for psychological profiling used to track down serial killers spawns the next serial killer. The group has to look inwards to find out who it is. Starring LL Cool J and Eion Bailey.



The Interpreter, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., A U.N. interpreter inadvertently overhears a death threat against an African head of state scheduled to address the United Nation's General Assembly. As she tries to thwart the plot, she realizes she's become a target herself. Starring Nicole Kidman and Sean Penn.



War of the Worlds, 11 p.m., Martians land near London, conquering and ruining the metropolis; the fate of civilization and even of the human race remains in doubt until the very last moment. Starring Tom Cruise and Tim Robbins.

Saturday

Kicking and Screaming, 1 a.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 3 a.m.
 Mind Hunters, 5 a.m.
 The Interpreter, 7 a.m.
 War of the Worlds, 9 a.m.
 Fantastic Four, 11 a.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 1 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 3 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 5 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 7 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 9 p.m.
 Fantastic Four, 11 p.m.

Sunday

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 1 a.m.
 Mind Hunters, 3 a.m.
 The Interpreter, 5 a.m.
 War of the Worlds, 7 a.m.
 Fantastic Four, 9 a.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 11 a.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 1 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 3 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 5 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 7 p.m.
 Fantastic Four, 9 p.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 11 p.m.

Monday

Mindhunters, 1 a.m.
 The Interpreter, 3 a.m.
 War of the Worlds, 5 a.m.
 Fantastic Four, 7 a.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 9 a.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 11 a.m.
 Mind Hunters, 1 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 3 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 5 p.m.
 Fantastic Four, 7 p.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 9 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 11 p.m.



Tuesday

The Interpreter, 1 a.m.
 War of the Worlds, 3 a.m.
 Fantastic Four, 5 a.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 7 a.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 9 a.m.
 Mind Hunters, 11 a.m.
 The Interpreter, 1 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 3 p.m.
 Fantastic Four, 5 p.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 7 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 9 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 11 p.m.

Wednesday

War of the Worlds, 1 a.m.
 Fantastic Four, 3 a.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 5 a.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 7 a.m.
 Mind Hunters, 9 a.m.
 The Interpreter, 11 a.m.
 War of the Worlds, 1 a.m.
 Fantastic Four, 3 p.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 5 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 7 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 9 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 11 p.m.

Thursday

Fantastic Four, 1 a.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 3 a.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 5 a.m.
 Mind Hunters, 7 a.m.
 The Interpreter, 9 a.m.
 War of the Worlds, 11 a.m.
 Fantastic Four, 1 p.m.
 Kicking and Screaming, 3 p.m.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith, 5 p.m.
 Mind Hunters, 7 p.m.
 The Interpreter, 9 p.m.
 War of the Worlds, 11 p.m.

Meeting the need

Chaplain serves in joint environment, helps servicemembers enrich off-duty lives

By Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Religion in war

1st in a 2-part series

When Spec. Jacob Boomsaad fell in love with a fellow soldier while serving in Iraq, he feared he would have to delay the wedding until almost six months after they leave here to marry in a Catholic church.

That is until the specialist with the Headquarter's Company 2-142nd Infantry, Texas Army National Guard, Lubbock, Texas, met Chaplain (Capt.) Chad Zielinski, 407th Air Expeditionary Group Catholic chaplain.

Chaplain Zielinski is the only U.S. military Catholic chaplain for servicemembers stationed in Southeastern Iraq, and met the couple while trying to meet the religious needs of fellow Catholics outside Ali Base.

So when Specialist Boomsaad and his fiancé approached him about their wedding plans, he said it was a breath of fresh air. His typical day centers around helping servicemembers through tough issues and concerns like infidelity, death, and money and relationship problems that crop up back home and affect their duty performance here.

"I'm helping them to form goals and dreams for their future," said Chaplain Zielinski. "It's exciting."

Lovebirds in the desert

Although Chaplain Zielinski can't marry the two lovebirds here, he's planning to in Texas when they all return from their deployments.

In the meantime, he provided marital counseling. If he hadn't, it would have delayed their matrimonial vows by the four to six months it normally takes to attain counseling after they return.

It was a wait they had resigned themselves to accept as the price of finding love in a war zone.

"Another priest told us we had to wait," said Sgt. Cintia Hernandez-Flores, 215th Quartermaster, Indiana Army Reserve, Jeffersonville, Ind., who is deployed to Camp Cedar, which is about a ten minute drive from Ali. "We live in different states, and we both go to college. It would have



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jamie Shultz

Chaplain (Capt.) Chad Zielinski, 407th Air Expeditionary Group Catholic chaplain, mulls over the homily (sermon) for his Sunday mass on the way to Camp Cedar, located a 10-minute drive from here. Chaplain Zielinski is the only military Catholic chaplain in Southeast Iraq and also travels to Scania, a three-to-four-hour drive to serve fellow Catholic's religious needs.

been very expensive to fly every weekend to do the preparation.

"Father Chad was very supportive. It's a difficult thing for people to understand that we weren't just trying to find someone for the 'deployment,'" Sergeant Hernandez-Flores said.

It wasn't hard for Chaplain Zielinski to understand.

"One day each person in the Air Force will no longer be in the Air Force," said Chaplain Zielinski. "The chaplain's mission is to bring an opportunity for each person to explore their beliefs and values in life."

Privileged communication

He's helped airman basics to two-star generals, and says the chaplaincy is a safe haven for all who need a break from the demands of the mission.

He's quick to point out that he's not here just for Catholics. The chaplain staff serves all religions and also provides counseling services.

"We are the only organization in the military that can provide servicemembers with privileged communication," said Chaplain Zielinski, who is stationed at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, United Kingdom.

"Regardless of one's faith background,

they should feel free to talk to a chaplain about what issues or concerns they may have," Chaplain Zielinski said. "You have absolute confidentiality; we are not allowed to talk to anyone about what you say."

Wear combat boots...will travel

Possessing the mindset "have combat boots will travel," he takes the gospel to those in need and performs five masses weekly, spread out between Ali, Camp Cedar and Scania. Scania is a remote site located a three-to-four-hour convoy from here.

"Twenty-five percent of the military is Catholic, but we have a critical shortage of Catholic priests in all services," said Chaplain Zielinski.

It has been that way for several years. In November 2003 to March 2004, he was deployed to Baghdad International Airport where he saw more than his share of death and helped the Army chaplaincy there.

"Two chaplains and I provided memorial services to more than 120 deceased soldiers," Chaplain Zielinski said. "That is something that will rock you to the core of your being seeing seven or eight dead

See **TRAVEL** Page 14

Travel

Chaplains are tasked with creating an environment of mutual respect for all religions

Continued from Page 13

Soldiers lying there in the back of an airplane.”

Fortunately, he hasn’t had that experience at Ali, but knowing the potential for violence is here doesn’t stop him from traveling throughout the dangerous roadways of Iraq.

“I know I’m serving a critical need,” said Chaplain Zielinski. “I will go out of my way even if that means danger to meet servicemembers’ religious needs.”

He understands those demands firsthand. He was an enlisted supply specialist for more than three years before he felt his calling to become a priest. While going to seminary, he also served as an aerial port specialist in the Reserves. In all, he served seven years and made the rank of staff sergeant.

9/11 fervor

A 1996 graduate of the Sacred Heart Major Seminary, he left the military completely and settled down in Northern Michigan to serve the community there. That was until 9/11 struck the core of America.

“I got a letter from the chaplain’s recruiting service and e-mailed the contact to say I was thinking about it,” said Chaplain Zielinski. “He called ten minutes later and said we need you tomorrow.”

Chaplain Zielinski came back in with the idea of doing only three years, but hasn’t looked back since.

“I enjoy living and working in an interfaith environment with military personnel and chaplains of different backgrounds and various faith groups,” he said. “By serving others, I serve God and my country.”

He says the military is rich with the opportunity to expand spiritually.

“As a chaplain, I am considered a non-combatant” said Chaplain Zielinski. “It’s my mission to promote peace and goodness in the world by telling the story of God.”

As a military chaplain, he says it’s not his place to push any one religion on servicemembers, but to encourage members to find their spiritual center to better help them deal with the rigors of military service.

An environment of mutual respect

Another one of the chaplain’s roles is to help create an environment of mutual respect for religions, and, in doing so, both the Air Force and Army chapels provide service opportunities for Protestants, Catholics, Jews and Muslims.

“The role of the military chaplain is to provide an opportunity for servicemembers to exercise their First Amendment right for free exercise of religion,” said Chaplain Zielinski.

For many, it’s a much-appreciated service some feel ultimately helps them perform as better Soldiers or Airmen.

“In Iraq, you have people going on convoys and getting blown up,” said Specialist Boomsaad. “I look forward to church every week. I think anything that boosts the morale of the Soldier makes the Soldier better.”

Chaplain Zielinski’s mission isn’t always easy. Mostly because his job isn’t as simple as providing a few words to those gathered in front of the pulpit on Sundays.

Facing adversity and pain

He once had to tell a young man that his wife and three children were killed in a car accident. He said the Airman crumpled to the floor at his feet and cried like a child.

For the man, who came back into the military to help fill a void created by those who kill without remorse, he said one of the hardest aspects of his job is finding a way to pay homage to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice - knowing they are someone’s child, husband, mother, brother or friend.

“It’s a selfless act for their country,” he said. “The presence of the chaplaincy adds solemn respect for the servicemember who has given her or his life for their country.”

It’s a challenge he’s made his mission in life.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jamie Shultz

Chaplain (Capt.) Chad Zielinski, 407th Air Expeditionary Group Catholic chaplain, hands the Holy Eucharist to an Army worshiper at Camp Cedar. The Holy Mass is where believers have the opportunity to rejoice and show their gratitude to Christ. Chaplain Zielinski holds 10 Masses weekly in the Oasis of Peace chapel here, Camp Cedar and Scania. For more information, call the chapel at 445-2006.